



SENATE
Exhibit
Date
Bill

DIARY
18
3-28-02
HB-215

Please Oppose House Bill 215 "Ban on human cloning research"

Position Statement

American Diabetes Association

Honorable Chairman and the Appropriation Committee,

HB 215 would criminalize research that holds much promise for finding a cure for diabetes. The language in this bill would ban a procedure used in embryonic stem cell research and is opposed by the American Diabetes Association. The Association maintains that this research holds much promise in the search for better treatment and for a cure for the nearly 21 million Americans with diabetes.

I ask that you oppose House bill 215. The American Diabetes Association supports the use of stem cell research in biomedical research, provided such use is consistent with federal guidelines relating to the bioethics for their use. Scientists from across the United States and throughout the world - including those at the American Diabetes Association - believe that stem cell research, especially embryonic stem cell research, holds great promise in the search for a cure and better treatments for diabetes. Stem cell research allows scientists to better explore how to control and direct stem cells so they can grow into other cells, such as insulin-producing beta cells found in the pancreas. Creating new beta cells could mean a cure for type 1 diabetes as they would serve as a replenishing source of cells for islet cell transplantation.

Embryonic stem cell research holds great potential in the search for better treatment and for a cure for the nearly 21 million Americans with diabetes. It is wrong for embryonic stem cell research to be painted with the same broad brushstroke used to criminalize human cloning.

The American Diabetes Association and I ask you to oppose HB 215. If you have any questions about HB 215, or diabetes please feel free to contact me at your convenience Laura Thelander, Ph. (800) 676-4065, Ext 7207 or email at lthelander@diabetes.org

Sincerely,

Trina Adams

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For Diabetes Information Call 1-800-DIABETES • <http://www.diabetes.org>
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